

MARYLAND'S 1996 SUMMER JOBS CAMPAIGN GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

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THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

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BACKGROUND

The Governor's Commission on Summer Youth Employment was appointed in April 1996 as a result of the pending Congressional elimination of the summer youth program under Title II of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). During the spring of 1995, Congress deleted federal funding for the 1996 Summer Youth Employment Program. In April of 1996, with the active support of the Clinton administration, the Senate restored \$635 million for the summer program but this amount was reduced to \$625 million in conference with the House. In late April, Congress and the President finalized deliberations on the Fiscal 1996 budget and Maryland received \$7.8 million for a 1996 summer youth program, roughly 60% of funds received last summer.

Throughout this budget debate, much concern was expressed by the Governor and members of the legislature as to the effect budget cuts in this area would have on Maryland's young people this summer. Job opportunities are vital to our youth who, in some cases, might be unable to stay in school if a summer job were not available. Additionally, these jobs provide valuable workplace skills and can lead to future educational and career opportunities.

Thus, a 17 member Commission was created consisting of legislative, state, and local officials and business representatives to address the concerns raised by the federal budget reduction. Eugene A. Conti, Jr., Secretary, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR), and State Senator Larry L. Young serve as co-chairs of the Commission.

The Commission was charged with creating alternative plans to provide job opportunities for Maryland's youth during the summer of 1996. The following three duties were assigned to the Commission: 1) formulate a strategic plan of action to establish a source of funding for job opportunities for the youth of the state for the summer of 1996; 2) explore the possibility of a joint funding initiative involving a partnership between the public and private sectors; and 3) explore any creative and innovative options that may provide a viable mechanism to fund job opportunities for the youth of the State for the summer of 1996. DLLR staffed the Commission.

DLLR is responsible for administering the program through its Division of Employment and Training, Office of Employment Services and Training. Federal grant money flows through the Office of Employment Services and Training to 12 local Service Delivery Areas (SDA's) located geographically around the state. The SDA's establish work sites and work with private non-profit associations and the public sector to locate jobs for youth during each summer. Students are recruited through local high schools.

In 1995, Maryland received over \$12 million and assisted 10,000 young people in summer placement. This year, our allocation is less than \$8 million to help 6,000 young people. In past years, because funds have been relatively abundant, concentrated efforts have not been made to reach out to the private sector for support. This year the Governor's Commission has been working jointly with each local SDA to create additional jobs within the private sector as well as the private non-profit and public sector.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Even though Maryland did receive federal funding for the 1996 summer jobs program, it was still felt by the members of the Commission that efforts were needed to offset the \$4 million loss to this summer's program. In order to accomplish its mission, the Commission met five times during April and May of 1996.

Before considering any recommendations, the Commission received a briefing on several of the local private sector job campaigns that we're currently underway. Presentations were made by Baltimore City, Prince George's County, Montgomery County and Frederick County. Some local jurisdictions were creative with their efforts. For example, Montgomery County has established a fee-funded employment service for business. Each business looking for a summer intern pays \$100 to the service and in turn the business is matched with a student. Students are recruited from local high schools and the income restrictions under the JTPA program do not apply to students in this program.

Prince George's County and Baltimore City also have local campaigns working with the private sector to generate jobs for this summer. Based on the work already being done locally, the Commission attempted to structure its work to augment and not replace these local efforts.

Given the short time frame for its work the Commission set about implementing its recommendations as it did its work. The Commission decided that the best way to offset the federal cuts and not undercut local jobs campaigns was to conduct a private sector jobs campaign to solicit jobs or cash donations to employ youth this summer. That private sector jobs campaign consisted of the following:

- A radio-thon, held on May 15th from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on WOLB 1010 AM in Baltimore and WOL 1450 AM in Washington;
- A three minute segment aired on MPT's "Inside Maryland" promoting the Maryland Summer Job Campaign;

- Cheek Stuffers to all Maryland State Employees encouraging them to contribute to a fund to employ youth this summer;
- Pledge sheets mailed to all vendors with their remittance instructions for vendors doing business with the State of Maryland;
- Pledge sheets mailed by the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, the Maryland Restaurant Association, and the Retail Merchants Association to their membership;
- Pledge sheets mailed to 5,000 manufacturing firms in the State;
- Pledge sheets mailed to all licensing renewal applicants within DLLR;
- Pledge sheets mailed to all Job Service Employer Committee representatives;
- Advertising space soliciting jobs or cash pledges in the Baltimore and Washington Afro American and in several community papers;
- A business breakfast to encourage employers to donate jobs or money;
- A campaign by the Governor's cabinet to have their own agencies hire youth this summer; and,
- Consultation with representatives of Student Government Associations concerning the work of the Commission and any additional ideas that they had to get youth summer employment.

In addition to the private sector campaign, the Commission considered two other items to encourage additional youth employment. The first was to examine the Child Labor Laws to see if there might be a way to expand the number of jobs available for 14 and 15 year old youth. The Commissioner of Labor and Industry John O'Connor met with the Commission and explained that although child safety was the primary concern, his office would entertain program proposals which would allow more flexibility in working with power equipment if certain safety standards were in place.

The second issue, not related to the private sector jobs campaign, brought before the Commission was a suggestion that a tax credit for the summer hiring of economically disadvantage youth be created. Since such a tax credit would need legislation the Commission recommends that the Governor examine such a proposal and if appropriate submit such legislation next session.

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RESULTS

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The Commission actively sought contributions throughout May and June of 1996. Together with the assistance of the local SDA's, private business, and state and local government, we successfully created approximately 5,000 jobs and raised \$100,000 (154 jobs). A final breakfast will be held on August 6, 1996 to thank those that participated.

We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the tremendous efforts of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Both Departments have additional summer youth jobs programs that have been operating for a number of years.

MSDE's Maryland's Tomorrow program is a year round cooperative program that is funded through the general fund and JTPA money and placements are made through the local SDA's. The program serves between 7,000 and 8,000 9th through 12th graders a year and places roughly half of these students in summer jobs.

DNR has five programs in existence, the Outdoor Discovery Program, the Maryland Conservation Corps Summer Program, the Maryland Conservation Corps Year Round Program, the Summer Intern Program, and Seasonal Park Employees. A total of 329 youth ranging in ages from 14 to 23 have been hired to work around the State this summer and throughout the year.

The Commission's work does not end here. With more time to plan for next year's summer youth program, DLLR, MSDE, DNR and other state and local agencies will work with the private sector to build upon this year's successful job effort.

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Baltimore City's YouthWorks '96 Leadership Team

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Roger Lyone, President, Baltimore Urban League

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Everard Rutledge, Liberty Medical Center

Dr. Stephen Schmipff, Executive Vice-President, University of Maryland Medical System

Daniel Whelan, President, Bell-Atlantic

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State Agency Contributors

Departments

Assessments and Taxation

Budget and Fiscal Planning

Business and Economic Development

Education

Environment

General Services

Health and Mental Hygiene

Housing and Community Development

Human Resources

Agencies/Independent Commissions/Boards

Aging

Board of Elections

Children Youth and Families

Juvenile Justice

Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Military

Natural Resources

Personnel

Maryland State Police

Public Safety and Correctional

Services

Transportation

Individuals with Disabilities

Lottery Agency

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Baltimore City

A J Stationers

Able Temporaries

Aladdin Cleaners

All Eyes

American Alloy Foundry Inc.

American Pool Management Inc.

American Trading & Production

Amoco Petroleum Products

Angela Hudson

Arther Watson's Zoo

Athletic Attic

Attorney Services Corporation

Baby Super Store

Bacon & Company

Bag-Mart

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Baltimore City Dept. of Personnel

Baltimore City Dept. of Planning

Baltimore City Dept. of Public Works

Baltimore City Dept. of Rec. and Parks

Baltimore City Department of Finance

Baltimore City Health Department

Books for Cooks

Brandon Robert and Associates

Brooklyn Video

Butler Whitmore Associates Inc.

CRW Parts Inc.

Caldor's

Candy Candy

Career Communications Group

Chesapeake Seafood & Carry Out

Church of the Holy Nativity

Colliers Pinkard

Colonial Pharmacy

Community Medical Rehab. Center

Consolidation Coal Sales Co.

D & D Automotive Inc.

Davidson Transfer & Storage Co.

Deaton Specialty Hospital & Home

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

Disabled American Veterans Thrift Stores

Downtown Partnership

Dr. Frank C. Carine Foundation

Baltimore City, continued

Baltimore City Mayor's Office

Baltimore City Police Department

Baltimore City Public Schools

Baltimore Jewish Council Baltimore Museum of Art

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Baltimore Reads Inc.

Baltimore Sun

Baltimore/Office of Promotions

Baskin-Robbins

Baxter Healthcare Corp.

Beauty Outlet Bell Atlantic

Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Maryland

Blum's Clothing and Furniture Co.

Gift-Bazaar

Glass Mental Health Center

Glen Rock Insurance Inc.

Good Samaritan Hospital

Gordon Phillips Beauty School

Great Blacks in Wax Museum

Greater Baltimore Medical Center

GBMC Community Family Health Center

Greater New St. John Baptist

Grrrreat Bears

Gymboree

HMIS Inc.

Hair Cuttery

Hallmark Insurance Inc.

Hanover Square

Harbor City Learning Center

Harbor Place and the Gallery

Hecht Company

Henry Adams Inc.

Herman's Bakery

Hopkins Transportation

Howard County General Hospital

IBM Corporation

Ilex Construction & Development Inc.

Inner Harbor Marina

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Jacob & Annita France

Javan & Walter Inc.

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Elder Health Inc. Elite Jewelers

Empower Baltimore Management

Enchanted Petals

Environmental Maintenance

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Fallstaff Convention Cleaners

Ferguson Enterprises

Fidelity & Deposit Company

Gallagher Evelius and Jones

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Giant Food

Liberty Federal Savings & Loan Association

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Macht Philanthropic Fund

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Marriott Food Service

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Martin Equipment Inc.

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Maryland General Hospital

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McDonald's - Howard Street

McDonald's - Belmont Avenue

McDonald's - North Avenue

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My Cleaning Service

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Nationsbank

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Baltimore City, continued

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Johns Hopkins Health System

Johns Hopkins Hospital K C I Technologies Inc.

K P M G Peat Marwick

Kazin Shoes & Outline Inc.

Kentucky Fried Chicken

Keswick Nursing Home

Keystone One Stop

Kids Clothes International

Kings Court Reistertown

Kunkel Service Company

Kwik Kopy Printing

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Lexington Market Inc.

Steve Campbell Realty

Stop Shop & Save Supermarket

Super Support Staff

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Systems Configuration & Maintenance

T. Rowe Price Associates Inc.

Taubman Properties

The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg

Foundation Inc.

The Mount Sinai Baptist Church

The Total Male

Tithe Corporation

Turner Construction

United Baptist Ministers

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O'Conor Real Estate

Oak Park Kennel

One Price Clothing

Paramount Press

Parrott Island

Patapsco Elementary School

Payless Shoe Store

Piper & Marbury

Provident Bankshares Corp.

Qualls Office Furniture

Rude Sports Inc.

Ruthco Inc.

Sears - White Marsh

St. Agnes Hospital

Staples

University of Maryland at Baltimore

Venable Baetjer & Howard

Visiting Nurse Association of Maryland

Walters Art Gallery

West Baltimore Middle School

Whiting-Turner Contracting

Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani

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Women Behind the Community

Woodberry United Methodist

Xcetera

Young Peoples Health Connection

Zodiac Gift Shop

Lower Shore Private Industry Council (Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties)

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Meatland, Inc.

Nelson's Real Estate Agency

Salisbury Auto Spring Works, Inc.

Somerset Automotive, Inc.

Somerset Herald

Tawe's Insurance Agency

Three Lower Counties Community Services

Montgomery County Private Industry Council

ComputerPros. Inc. Life Technologies Inc. Telesec Staffing Services

Prince George's County Private Industry Council

Adventure World Apple Movers College Park Auto Community Service Coalition DoRan Associates Maryland National Capitol Park & Planning Prince George's County Government

Susquehanna Region Private Industry Council (Cecil and Harford Counties)

Anchor Boat Sales Bel Air Glass and Mirror Company, Inc. Concept Plus, Inc. Frito-Lav Harbor Spice

Harford County Chamber of Commerce Mobile Modular Express Dr. David F. Jaffe The GAP Inc.

Student Participation, Maryland Association of Student Councils

Chris Anton, Leonardtown High Darren Burrell, Meade High School Marlease Bushnell, Springbrook **High School** Tiffany Butcher, Winston Churchill High School Christy Clark, Westlake High School Edwin deGuzman, Oxon Hill High School Justin Gamble, Mergenthaler High School Heather Giles, Baltimore Polytechnic Institutite Damian Hamlin, Walter Johnson High School Takeisha Harris, Fairmont Heights High School Johnny Johnson, South River High School Johari Kugenga, Northwestern High School Sarah Zaleski, Broadneck High School Billy Lee, Montgomery Blair High School

Sajjad Matin, McDonough High School Linnea Pagulayan, Westminster High School Laura Paszkiewicz, Annapolis High School Ray Perry, Severna Park High School Kerry Rosenberg, Franklin High School Arnold Sampson, Carver Center Melissa Schaekel, Joppatowne High School Arnold Sconian, Aberdeen High School Todd Sellers, Williamsport High School April Sovay, Glen Burnie High School Sujeen Thomas, Perryville High School Mark Tschechtelin, Old Mill High School Emanuel Tsourounis, Northern High School Eric Tucker, Bladensburg HIgh School Tracy Tucker, Westlake HIgh School Perry Wassereman, Towson High School

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James Brown

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Services

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. Systems